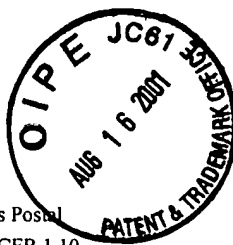


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By: Maisie C. Livengood
Maisie C. Livengood

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Cech et al.

Application No.: 09/843,676

Filed: April 26, 2001

For: NOVEL TELOMERASE

Art Unit: 1646

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/854,050, filed May 9, 1997, U.S. Patent No. 6,261,836; which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/851,843, filed May 6, 1997, U.S. Patent 6,093,809; which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/846,017, filed April 25, 1997, abandoned; which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/844,419, filed April 18, 1997, abandoned; which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/724,643, filed October 1, 1996, abandoned.